

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 EA-06 IO-10 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-01

INR-07 L-02 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-02

SS-15 USIA-06 CAB-02 COME-00 DOTE-00 EB-07 FAA-00

ACDA-05 AGR-05 LAB-04 CU-02 TRSE-00 /098 W

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R 291700Z JAN 75

FM AMEMBASSY BERN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 170

INFO AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY CANBERRA

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY ROME

AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM

AMEMBASSY THE HAUGE

AMEMBASSY TOKYO

USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

USMISSION GENEVA

C O N F I D E N T I A L BERN 413

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PORG, UN, AORS

SUBJ: GENEVA GROUP CONSULTATION, FEBRUARY 4-6; PREVENTING
POLITICIZATION OF SPECIALIZED AGENCIES

REF: STATE 017162

1. POLCOUNS CALLED ON KELLER (DIRECTOR, IO DIVISION)
ON JANUARY 29 TO DISCUSS US THINKING ABOUT WHAT MIGHT
BE DONE TO STOP TREND TOWARD POLITICIZATION OF SPECIALIZED
AGENCIES. KELLER, WHO WILL HEAD SWISS DELEGATION TO
GENEVA GROUP MEETING, HIGHLY APPRECIATED OPPORTUNITY
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TO OBTAIN US VIEWS.

2. KELLER PREFACED HIS POSITIVE COMMENTS BY STATING THAT SWITZERLAND WAS OBSERVER, NOT FULL-FLEDGED MEMBER OF GENEVA GROUP. MOREOVER, IT LACKED THE PERSONNEL TO STUDY ISSUES BEFORE THE GROUP IN GREAT DETAIL. IN GENERAL, KELLER SAID THAT GOS FULLY SHARES US CONCERNS ABOUT TREND IN SPECIALIZED AGENCIES WHICH SERIOUSLY DETRACTED FROM THEIR ASSIGNED FUNCTIONS. HE AGREED THAT THE US PRESCRIPTIONS TO IMPROVE MATTERS WERE PROPER SUBJECTS FOR STUDY BY GENEVA GROUP. SPECIFICALLY, KELLER FELT IT MIGHT BE USEFUL TO PROMOTE LDC INTEREST IN SUBSTANTIVE WORK OF SPECIALIZED AGENCIES AND TO SEEK IMPROVED RELATIONS WITH SECRETARIATS. ON THIRD POINT, KELLER NOTED THAT CONTENTIONS POLITICAL ISSUES IN SOME SPECIALIZED AGENCIES ALREADY WERE RELEGATED TO END OF CONFERENCES TO AVOID INTERFERENCE WITH IMPORTANT SUBSTANTIVE WORK. ON FOURTH POINT, KELLER DID NOT REJECT NOTION THAT GENEVA GROUP CONSULTATIONS MIGHT BE INTENSIFIED, BUT WONDERED WHETHER A BROADER GROUPING MIGHT NOT BE MORE EFFECTIVE INSTRUMENT. KELLER HAD IN MIND INCLUSION OF COUNTRIES LIKE DENMARK AND AUSTRIA WHICH PRESUMABLY SHARE USG AND GOS CONCERNS.

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